# Chapter 4: Appeals from Actions of the Franchise Tax Board

# Article 1: Application, Definitions, and Jurisdiction

#### 5000.4010. Application of Chapter.

- (a) This chapter shall apply applies to appeals and petitions for rehearing filed with the Board pursuant to the:
  - (1) Administration of Franchise and Income Tax Laws. Part 10.2 of <u>d</u>Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
  - (2) Senior Citizens Homeowners and Renters Property Tax Assistance Law. Chapter 1 and <u>c</u>Chapter 4 of <u>p</u>Part 10.5 of <u>d</u>Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- (b) To the extent this chapter does not set forthcontain a specific rule or procedure, the rules and procedures set forth in chapter 5 shall will apply to this chapter. Where there is a conflict arises between chapter 5 and this chapter, the provisions of this chapter shall control.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5071.

#### 5000.4011. <u>Definitions.</u>

The definitions set forthcontained in section 5000.5002 of chapter 5 shall-apply to this chapter. In addition, the following definitions shall-apply to this chapter and to any documents prepared pursuant thereto to this chapter:

- (a) The term "appellant" means an individual or business entity who files an appeal from an action of the Franchise Tax Board. The term "appellant" also includes multiple individuals or business entities filing an appeal jointly and, where appropriate, an authorized representative or representatives.
- (b) The terms "respondent" and "FTB" means the Franchise Tax Board and, where appropriate, an authorized representative or representatives thereof.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5070.

#### 5000.4012. Jurisdiction.

- (a) Generally. The Board has statutory jurisdiction to hear administrative appeals from actions of the Franchise Tax Board and shall only hear such appeals under the circumstances set forth in subdivision (b) of this section.
- (a) Appeals from the Franchise Tax Board. <u>In General, The the</u> Board has jurisdiction to hear and decide a timely filed appeal under any of the following circumstances:
  - (1) The Franchise Tax Board mails a *Notice of Action* affirming on a proposed deficiency assessment of additional tax, which may also include penalties, fees and interest.
  - (2) The Franchise Tax Board mails a *Notice of Action* affirming on a proposed carryover adjustment.
  - (3) The Franchise Tax Board mails a *Notice of Action on Cancellation, Credit, or Refund*, or any other notice, which denies any portion of a perfected claim for a refund of tax, penalties, fees, or interest.
  - (4) The Franchise Tax Board fails to act on a claim for a refund of tax, penalties, fees, or interest, within six months after the claim is filed perfected with the Franchise Tax Board.
  - (5) The Franchise Tax Board mails a *Notice of Determination Not to Abate Interest*, or any other notice, that denies an abatement, in whole or in part, of paid or unpaid interest, under Revenue and Taxation Code section 19104.
  - (6) The Franchise Tax Board fails to act on a request for abatement of interest within six months after the request is filed with the Franchise Tax Board under Revenue and Taxation Code section 19104. This provision-paragraph does not apply to requests for interest abatement made in connection with a protest or an appeal from a Notice of Action on a protest.
  - (7) The Franchise Tax Board mails a notice that disallows interest on a refund.
  - (8) The Franchise Tax Board mails any notice that grants or denies, in whole or in part, innocent spouse relief under Revenue and Taxation Code section 18533, subdivision (b) or (c), or section 19006, subdivision (c).
  - (9) The Franchise Tax Board mails a notice of determination, or fails to act within 90 days, on a petition for review of the Franchise Tax Board's finding of jeopardy.
  - (10) The Franchise Tax Board mails any notice that denies, in whole or in part, a claim for assistance under the Senior Citizens Homeowners and Renters Property Tax Assistance Law.

Nothing in this subdivision shall be interpreted as limiting or expanding the scope of any statute that governs the Board's jurisdiction to hear appeals from actions of the Franchise Tax Board. This subdivision contains general rules governing the Board's jurisdiction to hear appeals, and the Board's jurisdiction may be expanded or limited due to changes in the law.

- (b) Issues that will not be considered. The Board's jurisdiction is limited to determining the correct amount owed by, or due to, the appellant for the year or years at issue in the appeal. The Board has determined that it does not have jurisdiction to consider the following issues:
  - (1) Whether a California statute or regulation is invalid or unenforceable under the Federal or California Constitutions, unless a federal or California appellate court has already made such a determination.
  - (2) Whether a provision of the California Constitution is invalid or unenforceable under the Federal Constitution, unless a federal or California appellate court has already made such a determination.
  - (3) Whether a liability has been or should have been discharged in bankruptcy.
  - (4) Whether the Franchise Tax Board violated the Information Practices Act (Civil Code sections 1798 et seq.), the Public Records Act (Government Code sections 6250 et seq.), or any similar provision of the law.
  - (5) Whether the appellant is entitled to a remedy for the Franchise Tax Board's actual or alleged violation of any substantive or procedural right, unless the violation affects the adequacy of a notice, the validity of an action from which a timely appeal was made, or the amount at issue in the appeal.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606; Revenue and Taxation Code section 19570; Article III, section 3.5 of the California Constitution. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19006, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19322.1, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5011.

# Article 2: How to file an appeal from the Franchise Tax Board

# 5000.4020. Appeal Filing Requirements.

- (a) Franchise and Income Tax Appeals. Every appeal from an action of the Franchise Tax Board made under the circumstances enumerated listed in paragraphs (1) through (9) of subdivision (b) of section 5000.4012 shall must be in writing, shall must meet the formatting requirements of subdivision (e) of section 5000.4030, and shall must contain the following:
  - (1) The name of the appellant, or appellants, who are filing the appeal;

- (2) The social security number or taxpayer identification number, whichever is applicable, of each appellant filing the appeal;
- (3) The address and telephone number of each appellant and, if applicable, each appellant's authorized representative;
- (4) The amount involved, including tax, penalties, fees, and interest (whichever is applicable);
- (5) The year(s) involved;
- (6) A copy of the Franchise Tax Board's notice from which the appeal is made, unless the Franchise Tax Board has failed to act on a claim for refund or a request for interest abatement, in which case the appellant shall must provide a copy of the claim for refund or request for interest abatement;
- (7) The facts involved and the legal authorities upon which the appellant relies, including any relevant statutes, regulations, and judicial and administrative decisions;
- (8) Any portion of the amount at issue conceded by the appellant; and
- (9) The signature of each appellant who is listed in the Franchise Tax Board's notice and who is appealing the action, including a husband and wifefiling the appeal, whether jointly or separately, or the signature of an authorized representative made on behalf of each appellant who is appealing the action filing the appeal.
- (b) Senior Citizens Homeowners and Renters Property Tax Assistance Appeals. Every appeal from the Franchise Tax Board's denial, in whole or in part, of a claim for assistance under the Senior Citizens Homeowners and Renters Property Tax Assistance Law made under the circumstance described in paragraph (10) of subdivision (b) of section 5000.4012 shall must be in writing, shall must meet the formatting requirements of subdivision (e) of section 5000.4030, and shall must contain the following:
  - (1) The name of the appellant, or appellants, who are filing the appeal;
  - (2) The social security number or taxpayer identification number, whichever is applicable, of each appellant filing the appeal;
  - (3) The address and telephone number of the appellant and, if applicable, the appellant's authorized representative;
  - (4) The amount of property tax assistance claimed;

- (5) The claim year(s) involved;
- (6) A copy of the Franchise Tax Board's notice from which the appeal is made; and
- (7) The reasons the appellant is entitled to property tax assistance; and
- (8) The signature of each appellant who is listed in the Franchise Tax Board's notice and who is appealing the action, including a husband and wifefiling the appeal, whether jointly or separately, or the signature of an authorized representative made on behalf of each appellant who is appealing the action filing the appeal.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5012.

# 5000.4025.5. Methods for Delivery of Written Documents and Correspondence.

- (a) The Board encourages the use of electronic means (e.g., facsimile, e-mail, etc.) for the filing of appeals, petitions for rehearing, briefs, and related documents and correspondence. Any document may be filed electronically pursuant to this section if an electronic copy of such document is transmitted to the Board Proceedings Division in accordance with instructions provided on the Board's website at <a href="https://www.boe.ca.gov">www.boe.ca.gov</a>.
- (b) Appeals, petitions for rehearing, briefs, and related documents and correspondence may also be hand delivered to the Board's headquarters at 450 N Street in Sacramento, California, or mailed to:

Board Proceedings Division, MIC: 81 State Board of Equalization 450 N Street PO Box 942879 Sacramento, CA 94279-0081

(c) Where Board Staff is required to provide written notification or written acknowledgement to one or more parties during the course of an appeal under this chapter, Board Staff shall will use mail or personal delivery, unless the party to whom the document is provided consents to delivery by facsimile or secure electronic means.

# 5000.4021. <u>Time for Filing an Appeal.</u>

An appeal shall beis timely if it is mailed to or received by the Board Proceedings Division within the time period specified by the Revenue and Taxation Code, or as provided by this section.

- (a) Statutory Deadlines. The Revenue and Taxation Code <u>provides requires</u> that any appeal <u>shall-must</u> be <u>madefiled</u>:
  - (1) Not later than the later of: (A) 30 days from the date the Franchise Tax Board mails a *Notice of Action* upon the protest of an unpaid assessment, or (B) the date indicated on the notice as the deadline for filing an appeal.
  - (2) Not later than the later of (A): 30 days from the date the Franchise Tax Board mails a *Notice of Action* affirming a proposed carryover adjustment, or (B) the date indicated on the notice as the deadline for filing an appeal.
  - (3) Not later than 90 days from the date the Franchise Tax Board mails a *Notice* of Action on Cancellation, Credit, or Refund, or any other notice, that denies a claim for a refund of tax, penalties, fees, or interest.
  - (4) At any time, if after the Franchise Tax Board is deemed to have denied failed to act on a claim for a refund of tax, penalties, fees, or interest within six months after the claim was perfected. under Revenue and Taxation Code section 19331, provided that However, if the Franchise Tax Board denies the claim for refund in writing, the appeal must be filed not later than 90 days from the date the Franchise Tax Board mails the notice of denial.
  - (5) Not later than 30 days from the date the Franchise Tax Board mails a *Notice* of *Determination Not to Abate Interest*, or any other notice, that specifically denies the abatement of **unpaid interest**.
  - (6) Not later than 90 days from the date the Franchise Tax Board mails a *Notice* of Determination Not to Abate Interest, or any other notice, that specifically denies the abatement of **paid interest**.
  - (7) At any time, if after the Franchise Tax Board is deemed to have denied failed to act on a request to abate interest under Revenue and Taxation Code section 19104, subdivision (b)(3) within six months after the request was filed.

    However, if the Franchise Tax Board denies a request to abate interest in writing, the appeal must be filed within the time period specified in paragraph (5) in the case of unpaid interest, or within the time period specified in paragraph (6) in the case of paid interest.
  - (8) Not later than 90 days from the date the Franchise Tax Board mails a notice that disallows interest on a refund.
  - (9) Not later than 30 days from the date the Franchise Tax Board mails any notice that grants or denies, in whole or in part, innocent spouse relief.
  - (10) Not later than 60 days from the earlier of: (A) the date the Franchise Tax Board mails a notice of its determination on a petition for review of a finding

- of jeopardy, or (B) the 91<sup>st</sup> day after a petition for review of a finding of jeopardy was filed with the Franchise Tax Board.
- (11) Not later than 90 days from the date the Franchise Tax Board mails any notice that denies, in whole or in part, a claim for homeowners' or renters' property tax assistance.
- (b) Extensions. Unless a statute or regulation provides otherwise, the statutory deadlines for filing an appeal shall beare extended, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 1013, as follows:
  - (1) Five days if the Franchise Tax Board's notice being appealed was mailed to an address within California;
  - (2) Ten days if the Franchise Tax Board's notice being appealed was mailed to an address outside California, but within the United States; or
  - (3) Twenty days if the Franchise Tax Board's notice being appealed was mailed to an address outside the United States.
- (c) Date of Mailing. In the absence of other evidence, the filing date is the post-mark date, the date of delivery to a "delivery service" as defined in section 5000.5002, or the date of receipt if the document is filed pursuant to subdivision (a) of section 5000.4020.5. If the last day for mailing or delivering an appeal falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, the filing deadline shall be extended to the next business day.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606; Code of Civil Procedure section 1013. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5011.

## 5000.4022. Accepting or Rejecting an Appeal.

- (a) Determination of Jurisdiction and Timeliness. Upon receipt of the appeal, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall-must determine whether the Board has jurisdiction to hear the appeal under subdivision (b) of section 5000.4012, including whether the appeal is timely under the provisions of section 5000.4021. If any question arises as to the timeliness of an appeal or the Board's jurisdiction to hear an appeal, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall-will refer the appeal to the Chief Counsel. The Chief of Board Proceedings and the Chief Counsel may request any relevant information from the Franchise Tax Board in order to perform their duties under this section.
- (b) Accepting the Appeal. If the Chief of Board Proceedings or the Chief Counsel determines that the Board has jurisdiction to hear the appeal and that the appeal is timely, or that there is a genuine, material issue relating to jurisdiction or timeliness, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall must accept the appeal. The Chief of Board Proceedings then shall will provide written acknowledgement of the acceptance to the

- appellant and the Franchise Tax Board. The written acknowledgement shall will notify the appellant and the Franchise Tax Board of their rights and obligations under this chapter. The Chief of Board Proceedings shall will provide one copy of the appeal and one copy of any supporting documents to the Franchise Tax Board.
- (c) Issues Relating to Jurisdiction and Timeliness. If the Chief Counsel determines that there is a genuine, material issue relating to jurisdiction or timeliness, such matters will be considered to be at issue in the appeal and will be decided by the Board.
- (d) Rejecting the Appeal. If the Chief of Board Proceedings and or the Chief Counsel determine that the Board does not have jurisdiction to hear the appeal or that the appeal is not timely, and that there is no genuine, material issue relating to jurisdiction or timeliness, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall must reject the appeal. The Chief of Board Proceedings then shall provide written notification to will notify the appellant and the Franchise Tax Board in writing of the rejection and the reasons therefor.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, sections 5011 and 5075.1.

# 5000.4023. <u>Perfecting an Appeal.</u>

- (a) Generally. The briefing and resolution of an appeal cannot begin until the appeal is perfected. For purposes of this chapter, an appeal is "perfected" if it contains substantially all of the information required by section 5000.4020. In addition, an appeal is not "perfected" until it contains sufficient information to identify and contact each appellant or authorized representative, along with the signature of each appellant or authorized representative.
- (b) Time to Perfect the Appeal. If the Chief of Board Proceedings accepts an appeal, and such appeal is not perfected, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall will notify the appellant in writing of the need to perfect the appeal. The notification shall be included in the acknowledgement letter issued pursuant to subdivision (b) of section 5000.4022. The notification shall notice will explain what information is necessary to perfect the appeal.
  - (1) The appellant shall-must perfect the appeal not later than 90 days from the date of the aeknowledgment letternotice. The Chief of Board Proceedings may extend the deadline for perfecting an appeal upon a showing of extreme hardship or upon written agreement by the parties. All parties shall-will be notified in writing of any extension.
  - (2) Perfecting the appeal is accomplished by submitting the information necessary to perfect the appeal to the Chief of Board Proceedings.

(3) If the taxpayer fails to perfect the appeal within the 90-day period, or within any extension period granted by the Chief of Board Proceedings, the appeal shall-will be dismissed. All parties will be notified in writing of the dismissal.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19345, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, sections 5012 and 5075.1.

## **Article 3: Briefing Schedules and Procedures**

#### 5000.4030. General Requirements.

- (a) Generally. Submissions in the forms of briefs are required in all appeals from actions of the Franchise Tax Board. and t The parties to an appeal shall-must adhere to the briefing schedules and other requirements set forth in this article. Unless otherwise provided, the provisions of rules contained in this section shall-apply to all briefs filed pursuant to this article and briefing schedules.
- (b) Determining the briefing schedule; notification. Upon receipt of a perfected appeal, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall will provide written notification to each party that a perfected appeal has been filed and that briefing will begin under section 5000.4031; or section 5000.4032, or section 5000.4033, whichever is applicable.
  - (1) If any dispute arises as to the application of any particular briefing schedule, the Chief Counsel will determine which briefing schedule is applicable.
  - (1) In If the case of an appeal that involves a jeopardy determination, the Chief Counsel will compose a suitable briefing schedule after due consideration of all the facts and circumstances of that appeal.
  - (2) The notification issued <del>pursuant tounder</del> this section may be included, if appropriate, in the acknowledgment letter issued pursuant to section 5000.4022.
  - (3) Throughout the briefing schedule, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall will keep the parties apprised of applicable deadlines, extensions, and other requirements by written notification, and shall will ensure that all parties receive copies of any correspondence.
- (c) Extensions. Any request to extend the period for filing a brief must be in writing and must be made prior to the scheduled due date for that brief. Extensions and deferrals of briefing may be granted pursuant to the provisions of section 5000.5007-of chapter 5 of this division.
- (d) Submission and acknowledgment. The party filing a brief is responsible for submitting one copy of the brief and any supporting exhibits to the Board Proceedings Division. Upon receipt of any brief filed within the scope of the applicable briefing schedule, including any applicable deadlines and extensions, the

- Chief of Board Proceedings shall will provide written acknowledgement of receipt to all parties and will provide each opposing party with a copy of the brief and any supporting exhibits.
- (e) Formatting. All briefs shall-must be no longer than 30 double-spaced 8½" by 11" pages, or 15 single-spaced 8½" by 11" pages, excluding any table of contents, table of authorities, and exhibits. All briefs shall-must be handwritten or typed, and printed only on one side in a type-font size of at least 10 points or 12 characters per inch. The Chief of Board Proceedings may grant an exemption to these requirements of this subdivision upon written request that establishes the necessity thereofwhy an exemption is necessary. If a brief is filed that does not comply with the requirements of this subdivision, the Chief of Board Proceedings may, in his or her discretion, return the brief to the filing party and grant 10 days in which to file a corrected brief. Failure to file a corrected brief within the 10-day period shall constitute a waiver of the right to file that brief. Except as otherwise provided in the applicable briefing schedule, such that waiver will conclude shall have the effect of concluding the briefing schedule.
- (f) Failure to file a brief. The failure to file a brief within the scope of the applicable briefing schedule, including any applicable deadlines, extensions, and other requirements, shall constitute is a waiver of the right to file that brief. Except as otherwise provided in the applicable briefing schedule, such failure that waiver will conclude shall have the effect of concluding the briefing schedule. However, the Board, in its discretion, may accept any documentary evidence and related arguments submitted at a hearing pursuant to section 5000.5014.
- (g) Non-party briefing. Non-Party (Amicus) Briefs may be filed, subject to any generally applicable conditions of this section and the specific conditions of this subdivision.
  - (1) Any individual or entity may file a Non-Party Brief, whether unsolicited or upon request of the Appeals Division. No individual or entity shall be permitted to may file more than one Non-Party Brief, unless the Appeals Division specifically allows otherwise.
  - (2) <u>Unless the Appeals Division specifically allows otherwise</u>, <u>All-all</u> Non-Party Briefs shall must be filed prior to the conclusion of the applicable briefing <u>under section 5000.4031</u> or section 5000.4032, whichever is applicable schedule, unless the Appeals Division specifically allows otherwise. For purposes of this paragraph, the conclusion of the applicable briefing schedule shall be determined without regard to the filing of any Non-Party Brief or reply thereto. There shall not be any extensions of time for the filing of Non-Party Briefs.
  - (3) If a Non-Party Brief is filed, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall-will acknowledge receipt of the brief and provide one copy to each party. Each party may file a reply to the Non-Party Brief not later than 30 days from the date the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the Non-Party Brief.

(4) For purposes of articles 4 and 5 of this chapter, the applicable briefing schedule shall not be considered concluded until when the deadline for replying to all unsolicited Non-Party Briefs has passed.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5075.1.

#### 5000.4031. General Briefing Schedule.

(a) Application. The briefing schedule in this section shall applyapplies to all appeals from actions of the Franchise Tax Board, unless section 5000.4032 or section 5000.4033 applies the appeal involves an innocent spouse determination or a jeopardy determination.

#### (b) Opening Briefs.

- (1) Appellant's Opening Brief. The perfected appeal shall be considered is the Appellant's Opening Brief.
- (2) Respondent's Opening Brief. The Franchise Tax Board may file an Opening Brief not later than 90 days from the date the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the Appellant's Opening Brief.

#### (c) Reply Briefs.

- (1) Appellant's Reply Brief. The appellant may file a Reply Brief not later than 30 days from the date the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the Respondent's Opening Brief. The Appellant's Reply Brief, if filed, shall may only address only points of disagreement with the Respondent's Opening Brief. Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subdivision, the filing of the Appellant's Reply Brief shall-concludes the briefing schedule.
- (2) Respondent's Reply Brief. The Franchise Tax Board may file a Reply Brief only upon written permission from the Chief Counsel. The Respondent's Reply Brief, if filed, shall-may only address only points of disagreement with the Appellant's Reply Brief.
  - (A) The Franchise Tax Board <u>has shall have 15</u> days from the date the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the Appellant's Reply Brief in which to file a written request for permission to file its Reply Brief.
  - (B) Upon receipt of the Franchise Tax Board's written request, the Chief Counsel shall will determine whether additional briefing is necessary.

Factors to be considered in determining whether additional briefing is necessary include, but are not limited to:

- (i) Whether the Appellant's Reply Brief raised new facts, arguments, or evidence that are essential to the resolution of the appeal;
- (ii) Whether the briefing filed to date has provided sufficient information for the Board to resolve the appeal; and
- (iii) Whether the facts and issues in the appeal are so complex as to require additional discussion or clarification.
- (C) If the Chief Counsel determines that additional briefing is necessary, he or she shall-will grant the Franchise Tax Board's request to file a Reply Brief. The Franchise Tax Board may file its Reply Brief not later than 30 days from the date on which its request is granted.
- (D) If the Chief Counsel determines that additional briefing is not necessary, he or she shall-will deny the Franchise Tax Board's request to file a Reply Brief. That denial concludes the briefing schedule. and the briefing process shall be concluded.
- (3) Appellant's Supplemental Brief. If the Franchise Tax Board files a Reply Brief, the appellant may file a Supplemental Brief not later than 30 days from the date the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the Respondent's Reply Brief. The Appellant's Supplemental Brief, if filed, shall may only address only points of disagreement with the Respondent's Reply Brief. The filing of the Appellant's Supplemental Brief shall-concludes the briefing schedule.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5075.1.

# 5000.4032. Briefing Schedule for Innocent Spouse Appeals.

- (a) Application. The briefing schedule in this section shall applyapplies to all appeals from notices that grant or deny, in whole or in part, innocent spouse relief pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533 or 19006.
- (b) Definitions. For purposes of this section:
  - (1) The "Appealing Spouse" is the individual who files an appeal from the Franchise Tax Board's grant or denial, in whole or in part, of innocent spouse relief.

- (2) The "Non-Appealing Spouse" is the individual with whom the Appealing Spouse filed a joint return for the year(s) at issue.
- (3) The "requesting spouse" is the individual who requested relief from the joint and several liability imposed by Revenue and Taxation Code section 19006. The requesting spouse may be either the Appealing or Non-Appealing Spouse, depending upon whether the Franchise Tax Board granted or denied innocent spouse relief.
- (4) The "non-requesting spouse" is the individual with whom the requesting spouse filed a joint return for the year(s) at issue. The non-requesting spouse may be either the Appealing or Non-Appealing Spouse, depending upon whether the Franchise Tax Board granted or denied innocent spouse relief.

#### (c) Special Rules and Procedures.

- (1) If both spouses file timely appeals from the Franchise Tax Board's partial grant or partial denial of innocent spouse relief, then the appeals shall-will be consolidated for briefing, hearing, and decision. Each spouse shall-will be treated as an "Appealing Spouse" under this section and shall-will have an equal opportunity to file briefs.
- (2) If only one spouse files a timely appeal, then upon receipt of a perfected appeal from the Appealing Spouse, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall-will provide one copy of the perfected appeal to the Non-Appealing Spouse and notify the Non-Appealing Spouse of his or her rights and obligations under this section to participate in the appeal.
- (3) The Chief of Board Proceedings shall will use the best available information to contact the Non-Appealing Spouse.
- (d) Protection of confidential information. The Board Proceedings Division shall-will take reasonable steps, including redaction where appropriate, to ensure that the personal identifying information of one spouse is not provided to the other spouse. "Personal identifying information" includes, but is not limited to, a mailing address, electronic mail address, telephone number, and social security number.

#### (e) Opening Briefs.

- (1) Appealing Spouse's Opening Brief. The Appealing Spouse's perfected appeal shall constitute is the Appealing Spouse's Opening Brief.
- (2) Respondent's Opening Brief. The Franchise Tax Board may file an Opening Brief not later than 90 days from the date the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the Appealing Spouse's Opening Brief.

(3) Non-Appealing Spouse's Opening Brief. The Non-Appealing Spouse may file an Opening Brief not later than 90 days from the date of the notification of his or her right to participate in the appeal. The filing of the Non-Appealing Spouse's Opening Brief shall have the effect of will joining the Non-Appealing Spouse as a party to the appeal. The failure to file the Non-Appealing Spouse's Opening Brief within the time provided shall constitute is a waiver of the right to participate in the appeal, unless such failure is due to reasonable cause.

#### (f) Reply Briefs.

- (1) Appealing Spouse's Reply Brief. The Appealing Spouse may file a Reply Brief not later than 30 days from the later of:
  - (A) The date the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the Respondent's Opening Brief; or
  - (B) The date the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the Non-Appealing Spouse's Opening Brief, if one is filed; or-
  - (C) The date on which it becomes known that the Non-Appealing Spouse will not file an Opening Brief.

The Appealing Spouse's Reply Brief, if filed, shall-may only address only points of disagreement with the Respondent's Opening Brief and the Non-Appealing Spouse's Opening Brief. Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), the filing of the Appealing Spouse's Reply brief concludes the briefing schedule.

- (2) Non-Appealing Spouse's Reply Brief. If the Appealing Spouse files a Reply Brief, the Non-Appealing Spouse may file a Reply Brief not later than 30 days from the date the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the Appealing Spouse's Reply Brief. The Non-Appealing Spouse's Reply Brief, if filed, shall-may only address only points of disagreement with the Appealing Spouse's Reply Brief.
- (3) Respondent's Reply Brief. The Franchise Tax Board may file a Reply Brief only upon written permission from the Chief Counsel. The Respondent's Reply Brief, if filed, may only address only points of disagreement with the Appealing Spouse's Reply Brief and the Non-Appealing Spouse's Opening and Reply Briefs. The rules in paragraph pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (c)(2) of section 5000.4031 apply to this paragraph. However, the 15-day period described in subparagraph (c)(2)(A) of section 5000.4031 begins on the later of: The Respondent's Reply Brief, if filed, shall address only points of disagreement with the Appealing Spouse's Reply Brief and the Non-Appealing Spouse's Opening Brief.

- (A) The date the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the Appealing Spouse's Reply Brief;
- (B) The date the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the Non-Appealing Spouse's Reply Brief, if one is filed; or
- (C) The date on which it becomes known that the Non-Appealing Spouse will not file a Reply Brief.
- (4) If neither the Non-Appealing Spouse nor the Franchise Tax Board file a Reply Brief, the briefing schedule shall be concluded.
- (5) Appealing Spouse's Supplemental Brief. <u>If the Franchise Tax Board or the Non-Appealing Spouse file a Reply Brief</u>, The the Appealing Spouse may file a Supplemental Brief not later than 30 days from the later of:
  - (A) The date the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the Respondent's Non-Appealing Spouse's Reply Brief; or
  - (B) The date the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the Non-AppealingRespondent's Spouse's Reply Brief; or-
  - (C) The date on which it becomes known that the Franchise Tax Board will not file a Reply Brief.

The Appealing Spouse's Supplemental Brief, if filed, shall-may only address only points of disagreement with the Respondent's Reply Brief and the Non-Appealing Spouse's Reply Brief. The filing of the Appealing Spouse's Supplemental Brief shall-concludes the briefing schedule.

- (g) Conformity with Federal Action. If, prior to the Board's decision on the appeal, any party to the appeal receives notification that the requesting spouse has been granted relief under Internal Revenue Code section 6015, the following procedures shall-will apply in addition to the other procedures set forth in this section:
  - (1) The party who receives notification that relief has been granted under Internal Revenue Code section 6015 shall must submit proof of such notification to the Chief of Board Proceedings as soon as is practicable practical.
  - (2) Regardless of whether the non-requesting spouse has joined the appeal, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall-will notify the Franchise Tax Board and the non-requesting spouse of the federal grant of innocent spouse relief. Not later than 30 days from the date of the notification, the Franchise Tax Board and the non-requesting spouse may provide "information that indicates that relief

- should not be granted," as that phrase is defined in Revenue and Taxation Code section 18533, subdivision (i)(2).
- (3) If the Franchise Tax Board and/or the non-requesting spouse provides information as permitted by paragraph (2) of this subdivision, the requesting spouse may file an additional brief. If the Franchise Tax Board did not provide information as permitted by paragraph (2), it may also file an additional brief. Additional briefs shall-must be filed not later than 30 days from the date the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the information described in paragraph (2) of this subdivision. Any brief filed pursuant to this paragraph shall-may only address only points of disagreement with the information described in paragraph (2) of this subdivision.
- (4) If this subdivision becomes applicable after the briefing schedule has concluded, then briefing shall-will be reopened for the purpose of complying with this subdivision and any hearing or decision shall-will be postponed as appropriate.
- (5) If this subdivision becomes applicable before the briefing schedule has concluded, then the briefing schedule shall will not be considered concluded until the requirements of this subdivision have been are satisfied.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19006, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5075.1.

# 5000.4033. <u>Elective Simplified Briefing Schedule for Small Tax Cases and Homeowner and Renter Assistance Appeals.</u>

- (a) Intent. This section is intended to provide a simplified briefing schedule and an expedited resolution of the appeal. The Board Proceedings Division and the Appeals Division shall consider this intent and shall expedite the processing of appeals to which this section applies, consistent with workload constraints.
- (b) Certified Law Student Pro Bono Representation. Appellants who elect to apply this section shall be notified of, and may take advantage of, any certified law student pro bono representation that is available pursuant to an agreement between a law school and the Board of Equalization. The availability of representation is subject to the workload constraints of the Board Proceedings Division, the Appeals Division, and the participating law school.
- (c) Application and Definitions.
  - (1) Any appellant filing an appeal pursuant to the Homeowners and Renters Property Tax Assistance Law may elect to apply this section.

- (2) Any appellant filing an appeal pursuant to the Administration of Franchise and Income Tax Law may elect to apply this section if:
  - (A) The amount at issue is not more than \$15,000;
  - (B) The specific briefing schedule in section 5000.4032 does not apply;
  - (C) The appeal does not involve a jeopardy determination; and
  - (D) The appellant is not contesting any tax imposed under Part 11 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, except for any tax that is computed by reference to Revenue and Taxation Code section 23153, subdivision (d).
- (3) For purposes of this section, the "amount at issue" includes all of the following:
  - (A) All taxes, penalties, and fees upon which the appellant and the Franchise Tax Board disagree and over which the Board has jurisdiction;
  - (B) All interest imposed by Revenue and Taxation Code section 19101 that was paid as of the date of the Franchise Tax Board's notice from which the appeal is made:
  - (C) All interest imposed by Revenue and Taxation Code section 19101 that had accrued and was unpaid as of the date of the Franchise Tax Board's notice from which the appeal is made, provided that that the appellant is seeking interest abatement pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code section 19104.
  - (D) All interest disallowed by the Franchise Tax Board pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code section 19342.
- (4) The "amount at issue" shall be inclusive of all years on appeal. However, the "amount at issue" shall be determined separately for each appellant. Spouses who filed a joint return for the year(s) on appeal will be considered as one appellant.
- (5) The Appeals Division shall perform an annual review of the maximum "amount at issue" and determine whether the maximum amount should be adjusted to reflect changes in California's economic climate and tax policy. Any such adjustment must be approved by the Board and must be in increments of not less than \$500.
- (d) Waiver of right to request oral hearing. Notwithstanding section 5000.4040, an election to apply this section shall constitute a waiver of the right to request an oral hearing before the Board. However, nothing in this section shall prevent the Board from exercising its discretion to order that an oral hearing be held.

- (e) Special Procedures. Upon receipt of a perfected appeal, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall consult with the Chief Counsel and determine whether the appellant filing the appeal is eligible to elect to apply this section. If additional information is necessary in order to determine the appellant's eligibility, the Chief of Board Proceedings may request such information from the appellant and the Franchise Tax Board. If the Chief of Board Proceedings determines that the appellant is eligible to elect to apply this section, the following procedures shall apply:
  - (1) The Chief of Board Proceedings shall provide written notification to the appellant of the right to make the election. Such notification may be included in the acknowledgment letter issued pursuant to section 5000.4022, if appropriate, and shall clearly explain the following:
    - (A) An election to apply this section constitutes a waiver of the right to request an oral hearing pursuant to section 5000.4040;
    - (B) An election to apply this section does not constitute a waiver of the right to address the Board regarding any nonappearance matter considered at an open meeting; and
    - (C) Appeals for which an election to apply this section is made will be considered and decided with the same diligence and objectivity as any other appeal.
  - (2) Not later than 30 days from the date of the notification described in paragraph (1), the appellant may affirmatively elect to apply this section. The election must be made in writing. If the appellant fails to make the election within that 30 day period, then unless such failure is due to reasonable cause, the briefing schedule in section 5000.4031 shall apply.
  - (3) The Chief of Board Proceedings shall provide written notification to the Franchise Tax Board of the appellant's election, or failure to make an election, to apply this section.
  - (4) The appellant may revoke the election until the Franchise Tax Board files its Opening Brief. Thereafter, the appellant may not revoke the election.
  - (5) The Chief of Board Proceedings, with the consent of the Appeals Division, may revoke an election to apply this section if:
    - (A) It is determined that one or more of the requirements of subdivision (e) have not been met; or
    - (B) The election to apply this section was made by mistake or in bad faith.
- (f) Briefing Schedule. Where an appellant elects to apply this section:

- (1) Appellant's Opening Brief. The perfected appeal shall constitute the Appellant's Opening Brief.
- (2) Respondent's Opening Brief. The Franchise Tax Board may file an Opening Brief not later than 60 days from the date of the Chief of Board Proceedings' notice that an appellant has elected to apply this section.
- (3) Appellant's Roply Brief. The appellant may file a Roply Brief not later than 30 days from the date the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the Respondent's Opening Brief. The Appellant's Roply Brief, if filed, shall address only points of disagreement with the Respondent's Opening Brief. The filing of the Appellant's Roply Brief shall conclude the briefing schedule.
- (g) An election to apply this section does not preclude a request for supplemental briefing pursuant to section 5000.4035.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5075.1.

#### 5000.4035. <u>Discretionary Supplemental Briefing.</u>

- (a) Staff Requests for Supplemental Briefing. If the Assistant Chief Counsel of the Appeals Division, or his or her designee, determines that insufficient briefing or evidence has been provided, the Appeals Division may request additional briefing or evidence from any party. The Appeals Division may will determine set forth any the order, deadlines, and conditions for under which any briefing or evidence must be submitted that it deems appropriate. The Appeals Division shall administer any request made under this subdivision and may extend dDeadlines under this subdivision may be extended upon a showing of reasonable cause.
- (b) Individual Board Member's Request for Supplemental Briefing. Any individual Board Member may contact the Appeals Division in order to request additional briefing or evidence from any party. The Appeals Division shall will determine the order, deadlines, and conditions under which any briefing or evidence must be submitted and shall administer any request made under this subdivision. The Appeals Division may extend dDeadlines under this subdivision may be extended upon a showing of reasonable cause.
- (c) Board Requests for Supplemental Briefing. If the Board, in its discretion, determines that insufficient briefing or evidence has been provided, the Board may request additional briefing or evidence from any party. The Board may set forthwill determine any the order, deadlines, and conditions for under which any briefing or evidence must be submitted that it deems appropriate. The Board Proceedings Division shall administer any request made under this subdivision. The Chief of Board Proceedings may extend deadlines set by the Board under this subdivision only upon a showing of extreme hardship and with the consent of the Board Chair.

- (d) Timing of Request. A request under this section may be made during or after the applicable briefing schedule has concluded. Additional briefs or evidence provided in response to such a request are not subject to the requirements of the applicable briefing schedule.
- (e) Notification of Board Chair. The Board Chair shall must be notified promptly of any request made pursuant to this section and may postpone the hearing, briefing, or scheduling or consideration of an appeal, as needed.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5075.1.

# Article 4: Requesting and Scheduling Oral Hearings

# 5000.4040. Right to Request an Oral Hearing.

- (a) Written Request Required. Except as otherwise provided in any statute or regulation, every appellant shall have has the right to an oral hearing before the Board upon written request.
  - (1) In order to obtain an oral hearing, The appellant may must file such a written request not later than 30 days following from the conclusion of the applicable briefing schedule under article 3 of this chapter.
  - (2) Upon receipt of a timely request, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall-will send written acknowledgment of the request to all parties pursuant to section 5000.5005.1 of chapter 5 of this division.
  - (3) An untimely request may be accepted and acknowledged if the Chief Counsel determines that the failure to make a timely request was due to reasonable cause. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, an appellant who elects to apply the simplified briefing schedule in section 5000.4033 may not request an oral hearing.
- (b) Innocent Spouse Appeals. Both the Appealing Spouse and the Non-Appealing Spouse, as those terms are defined in subdivision (b) of section 5000.4032, may request an oral hearing pursuant to subdivision (a) of this section. The Non-Appealing Spouse may request an oral hearing only if he or she has been joined as a party to the appeal. If such a request is made by either or both spouses, the Board typically shall will conduct one oral hearing on the appeal and invite both spouses to appear. However, the Board shall-will conduct separate oral hearings if:
  - (1) A court order would prohibit the spouses from appearing at the same hearing; or

(2) The Chief of Board Proceedings, after consulting with the Board Chair, determines that conducting one oral hearing is likely to be unsafe, disruptive, or unjust.

If the Board conducts separate oral hearings, the Board will not decide the appeal until both hearings have concluded.

- (b) Discretion to Deny Oral Hearing. The Chief of Board Proceedings, with the consent of the Chief Counsel and the Board Chair, may deny an oral hearing on an appeal from the Franchise Tax Board's denial of a claim for refund or denial of interest abatement if:
  - (1) The appellant received an oral hearing on a prior appeal from a Notice of Action affirming a proposed assessment or on a prior appeal from a notice that denied interest abatement; and
  - (2) The appellant's current appeal concerns the same facts, laws, and year(s) that were at issue in the appeal described in paragraph (1) of this subdivision.

If an oral hearing is denied pursuant to this subdivision, all parties shall be notified in writing of the denial and the reasons therefor. In addition, any written decision prepared pursuant to article 5 of this chapter shall note that a hearing was denied under this subdivision.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5076.1.

# 5000.4041. Submission for Decision Without Oral Hearing.

- (a) Generally. If the appellant does not request an oral hearing under section 5000.4040, or if the appellant does not respond to a Notice of Hearing under section 5000.5006, The the appeal shall will be submitted for decision based upon the written record on file and without an oral hearing, under any of the following circumstances:
- (b) Innocent Spouse Appeals. If neither the Appealing Spouse nor the Non-Appealing Spouse request an oral hearing under section 5000.4040, or neither spouse responds to their Notice of Hearing under section 5000.5006, the appeal will be submitted for decision based upon the written record on file and without an oral hearing.
- (a) The appellant does not request an oral hearing pursuant to section 5000.4040.
- (b) The appellant's request for an oral hearing is denied.
- (c) The appellant fails to respond to a Hearing Notice as provided in section 5000.5006 of chapter 5 of this division.

(d) The appellant elected to apply the simplified briefing schedule in section 5000.4033.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5076.1.

# 5000.4042. Appeals Review; Scheduling the Oral Hearing

- (a) If an oral hearing is granted pursuant tounder section 5000.4040, the Appeals Division shall-will review the record and determine whether the briefing on file adequately addresses all relevant factual and legal issues. If the briefing on file does not adequately address all relevant factual and legal issues, the Appeals Division may request supplemental briefing pursuant to section 5000.4035, or may order a prehearing conference pursuant to section 5000.4042.5, or both. When the Appeals Division determines that all relevant factual and legal issues have been addressed, then the Appeals Division shall-will notify the Chief of Board Proceedings that the appeal is ready to be scheduled for an oral hearing.
- (b) Upon notification from the Appeals Division that the appeal is ready to be scheduled for an oral hearing, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall-will schedule and notice an oral hearing pursuant to section 5000.5006 of chapter 5 of this division.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5076.1.

## 5000.4042.5. Pre-hearing Conference.

- (a) Purpose. The purpose of a pre-hearing conference is to obtain additional facts and evidence, obtain stipulations of fact, and narrow questions of law, in order to facilitate a more efficient and productive oral hearing.
- (b) When to Hold a Pre-hearing Conference. A pre-hearing conference may be held only when an oral hearing has been granted pursuant tounder section 5000.4040, and after the conclusion of the applicable briefing schedule under article 3 of this chapter.
  - (1) The Appeals Division may order a pre-hearing conference in its discretion.
  - (2) Any party may make a written request for a pre-hearing conference. Such The request must be made not later than 15 days from the date on which the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges the request for an oral hearing. The Appeals Division may deny such athe request, with the approval of the Chief Counsel, if the Appeals Division determines that a pre-hearing conference is likely to be unproductive and a misuse of administrative resources.
  - (3) The Board, at the oral hearing on the appeal, may order that a pre-hearing conference be held. In such that circumstance, the hearing shall will be continued

to the next regularly scheduled Board meeting postponed until the conclusion of the pre-hearing conference no less than 30 days thereafter.

- (c) Determining the Time and Location of the Pre-Hearing Conference. The Appeals Division shall-will determine the time and location of the pre-hearing conference. Consistent with workload constraints, the Appeals Division shall attempt will try to ensure that the pre-hearing conference is held at a time convenient to the appellant. The pre-hearing conference shall ordinarily must be held at the Board's headquarters in Sacramento, and may be conducted in person, by videoconference, by teleconference, or by means of a secure electronic connection. With good cause and with the approval of the Chief Counsel, an in-person pre-hearing conference may be held outside of Sacramento.
- (d) Notice and Scheduling. The Board Proceedings Division shall-will schedule the prehearing conference in accordance with information provided to it by the Appeals Division and shall-will issue appropriate written notification to all parties. The parties shall-will receive no less than 15 days notice prior to the date of the pre-hearing conference, provided that the notice period may be waived upon agreement by all parties.
- (e) Conduct and Nature of the Pre-hearing Conference. An employee of the Appeals Division will conduct the pre-hearing conference. To the extent practicable possible, the conference holder will ensure that the pre-hearing conference is informal and non-adversarial in nature. However, if the conference holder determines that the pre-hearing conference is unproductive or that a party is uncooperative, he or she the conference holder may terminate the pre-hearing conference.
- (f) Recording or Transcription. The conference holder will not record, videotape, or transcribe the pre-hearing conference. Any party may arrange for the pre-hearing conference to be recorded or transcribed, at that party's expense. If the pre-hearing conference is recorded or transcribed a transcript is made, a-the transcript shall-must be made available to all participants and such transcript shall will become a public record. However, in all cases, statements made by participants during the pre-hearing conference are not binding upon the Board.
- (g) Additional Briefing and Evidence. The holding of a pre-hearing conference does not preclude prevent the Appeals Division from requesting additional briefing or evidence pursuant tounder section 5000.4035.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5076.1.

5000.4043. Hearing Summary.

- (a) Definition. For purposes of this chapter, a "Hearing Summary" is a written document intended to assist the Board in its consideration and decision of an appeal at an oral hearing. The Hearing Summary shall-must contain:
  - (1) Sufficient facts, contentions, law, and evidence to enable the Board to conduct an informed oral hearing;
  - (2) The Appeals Division's recommendation for or against the adoption of a Formal Opinion under section 5000.4052, if the Appeals Division determines that such a recommendation is appropriate;
  - (3) A discussion of the pre-hearing conference, if one was held, including any findingsadditional information, stipulations, and concessions resulting therefrom; and
  - (4) The Appeals Division's analysis, recommendations and comments, including any questions posed to the parties.
- (b) Preparing the Hearing Summary. Upon the scheduling and noticing of an oral hearing pursuant to section 5000.5006 of chapter 5 of this division, the Appeals Division shall will prepare a Hearing Summary and submit the Hearing Summary to the Chief of Board Proceedings. Except in the case of an appeal that involves a jeopardy determination, the Appeals Division shall must have no less than at least 30 days in which to prepare and submit the Hearing Summary. The Chief Counsel may extend the time for submitting the Hearing Summary upon a showing of reasonable cause. Upon receipt of the Hearing Summary, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall will provide one copy to each party.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5076.1.

# Article 5: Decisions, Opinions, and Frivolous Appeal Penalties

5000.4050. <u>Letter Decisions.</u>

- (a) Definitions. A "Letter Decision" is a written decision setting forth the Board's decision and that contains a short explanation of the reasons therefore for the Board's decision on an appeal.
- (b) Preparing the Letter Decision. Whenever the Board decides an appeal without adopting, or directing the preparation of, a Summary Decision or Formal Opinion, the Appeals Division shall prepare a Letter Decision. The Appeals Division shall will provide one copy of a Letter Decision to each party not later than three business days from the date of the Board's decision.

- (c) Date of Decision. The date on which the Board votes to decide the appeal shall be is the date of the decision for purposes of this chapter.
- (d) Citation prohibited. No-Letter Decisions shallmay not be cited as precedent in any appeal or other proceeding before the Board.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5076.1.

#### 5000.4051. Summary Decisions.

- (a) Definition. A "Summary Decision" is a written decision setting forththat contains the findings of fact and conclusions of law that form the basis of the Board's decision on an appeal-under this chapter. The Summary Decision does not represent or reflect the Board's decision on the appeal unless and until it is adopted by the Board.
- (b) Preparing the Summary Decision. The Appeals Division shall-will prepare a Summary Decision under the following circumstances:
  - (1) Where aAn appeal is submitted for decision pursuant tounder section 5000.4041: or the Appeals Division shall prepare a Summary Decision and, upon completion, submit the Summary Decision to the Chief of Board Proceedings.
  - (2) Where, aAt the conclusion of an oral hearing, the Board orders the preparation of a Summary Decision or staff recommendation:

the The Appeals Division shallmust prepare and submit a the Summary Decision to the Chief of Board Proceedings Division either upon completion or within any deadline set by the Board. The Chief Counsel may extend the time period for submitting the Summary Decision upon a showing of reasonable cause and with the consent of the Board Chair.

- (c) Adoption; Date of Decision. The When the appeals Division prepares a Summary Decision, the Decision shall will be submitted to the Board for adoption as a non-appearance matter and shall remains confidential until adopted by the Board. The date on which the Board votes to adopt the Summary Decision, or votes to decide the appeal without adopting the Summary Decision, shall be the date of the Board's decision for purposes of this chapter.
- (d) Citation prohibited. No-Summary Decisions shallmay not be cited as precedent in any appeal or other proceeding before the Board.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5076.1.

#### 5000.4052. Formal Opinions.

- (a) Definition. A "Formal Opinion" is a written decision setting forththat contains the findings of fact and conclusions of law that form the basis of the Board's decision on an appeal under this chapter and which is intended to set precedent. The Formal Opinion does not represent or reflect the Board's decision on the appeal unless and until it is adopted by the Board.
- (b) Preparing the Formal Opinion. The Appeals Division shall will prepare a Formal Opinion under the following circumstances:
  - (1) Where aAn appeal is submitted for decision pursuant tounder section 5000.4041 and the Appeals Division determines, in its discretion, that a Formal Opinion is appropriate: the Appeals Division shall prepare a Formal Opinion and, upon completion, submit the Formal Opinion to the Chief of Board Proceedings.; or
  - (2) Where, a At the conclusion of an oral hearing, the Board determines that a Formal Opinion is appropriate and orders the preparation of a Formal Opinion:

the <u>The Appeals Division shall prepare and must</u> submit the Formal Opinion to the <u>Chief of Board Proceedings Division either upon completion or</u> within any deadline set by the Board. The Chief Counsel may extend the time period for submitting the Formal Opinion upon a showing of reasonable cause and with the consent of the Board Chair.

- (c) Adoption; Date of Decision. The When the Appeals Division prepares a Formal Opinion, shall the Opinion will be submitted to the Board for adoption as a non-appearance matter and shall-remains confidential until adopted by the Board. The date on which the Board votes to adopt the Formal Opinion, or votes to decide the appeal without adopting the Formal Opinion, shall be the date of the Board's decision for purposes of this chapter.
- (d) Reasons for Issuing a Formal Opinion. In determining whether a Formal Opinion is appropriate, the following factors shall beare considered:
  - (1) Whether the Opinion would establish a new rule of law, apply an existing rule to a set of facts significantly different from those stated in published opinions, or modify or repeal an existing rule;
  - (2) Whether the Opinion would resolve or create an apparent conflict in the law;
  - (3) Whether the Opinion would involve a legal issue of continuing public interest; and

(4) Whether the Opinion would make a significant contribution to the law by reviewing either the development of a common law rule or the legislative or judicial history of a provision of a constitution, statute, or other written law.

The list of factors in this subdivision is not intended to be exclusive. The Board and Board Staff may consider other relevant factors.

(e) Citation permitted. Any Formal Opinion may be cited as precedent in any appeal or other proceeding before the Board, unless the Opinion has been depublished, overruled, or superceded superseded.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19345, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5082.1.

#### 5000.4053. <u>Dissenting and Concurring Opinions.</u>

#### (a) Definitions.

- (1) A "Dissenting Opinion" sets forth the rationale of a Board Member or Members who disagree with the result reached in a Formal Opinion.
- (2) A "Concurring Opinion" sets forth the rationale of a Board Member or Members who agree with the result reached in a Formal Opinion but disagree with the rationale expressed therein.
- (b) Ordering a Dissenting or Concurring Opinion. One or more Board Members may order the preparation of a Dissenting or Concurring Opinion, provided that the order is made at a Board Meeting. The order shall not be made after the Board Meeting at which the Board adopts the Formal Opinion that is the subject of the dissent or concurrence.
- (c) Preparation. Upon an order made pursuant to subdivision (b), the Appeals Division shall prepare the Dissenting or Concurring Opinion and, upon completion, submit the opinion to the Chief of Board Proceedings.
- (d) Approval. The Dissenting or Concurring Opinion shall be submitted to the Board as a non-appearance matter and shall not be subject to public disclosure until approved at a Board Meeting by the Board Member or Members who ordered its preparation.
- (e) Limited Citation Permitted. A Dissenting or Concurring Opinion may be cited in the same manner as a dissent or concurrence in a published opinion of the California Supreme Court or California Court of Appeal.

(t) The Appeals Division shall develop procedures to ensure the uniform implementation of this section and the fair representation of all Board Members' viewpoints.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645.

# 5000.4054. Frivolous Appeal Penalty.

- (a) Generally. If the Board determines that an appeal is frivolous or is maintained for the purpose of delay, the Board may impose a penalty, pursuant tounder Revenue and Taxation Code section 19714, on the appellant or appellants that filed the appeal. The Board may impose a frivolous appeal penalty on its own or upon the recommendation of Board Staff.
- (b) Factors Considered. The following factors shall beare considered in determining whether, and in what amount, to impose a frivolous appeal penalty:
  - (1) Whether the appellant is making arguments that the Board, in a Formal Opinion, or courts have rejected;
  - (2) Whether the appellant is making the same arguments that the same appellant made in prior appeals;
  - (3) Whether the appellant filed the appeal with the intent of delaying legitimate tax proceedings or the legitimate collection of tax owed;
  - (4) Whether the appellant has a history of filing frivolous appeals or failing to comply with California's tax laws.

The list of factors in this subdivision is not intended to be exclusive. The Board and Board Staff may consider other relevant factors.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606; Revenue and Taxation Code section 19714. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645.

# Article 6: Petitions for Rehearing and Rehearings

# 5000.4060. Finality of Decision.

- (a) Finality. The Board's decision pursuant tounder article 5 of this chapter shall becomes final 30 days from the date of the decision unless, within that 30-day period, a party to the appeal files a Petition for Rehearing.
- (b) Finality Independent of Notice. The finality of the Board's decision, as set forth in subdivision (a) of this section, is not dependent upon the date of any notice of the decision. In addition, the finality of the decision may become final even though is not

precluded by Board Staff's failure fails to send, or a party's failure fails to receive, notice of the decision.

(c) Number of Filings. The filing of a Petition for Rehearing by one party shall-does not preclude prevent the filing of a Petition for Rehearing by another party, provided that each Petition for Rehearing is filed within the aforementioned 30 day periodon time. However, no party may file more than one Petition for Rehearing.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5082.1.

# 5000.4061. Petitions for Rehearing.

- (a) Definitions. For purposes of this article:
  - (1) The "Filing Party" is the party who files a Petition for Rehearing.
  - (2) The "Non-Filing Party" is the party who does not file a Petition for Rehearing.
- (b) Time for Filing. A Petition for Rehearing shall be considered is timely if it is mailed within the 30-day period specified described in subdivision (a) of section 5000.4060, as extended by the provisions of subdivision (b) of section 5000.4021. The date of mailing shall be determined under subdivision (c) of section 5000.4021.
- (c) Format and Contents of the Petition for Rehearing. Every Petition for Rehearing shall must be in writing, shall must meet the formatting requirements of subdivision (e) of section 5000.4030, and shall must contain the following:
  - (1) The name or names of the party or parties filing the Petition for Rehearing;
  - (2) The address and telephone number of each party and, if applicable, each party's authorized representative;
  - (3) The facts involved and the legal authorities upon which the party relies, including any relevant statutes, regulations, and judicial and administrative decisions, which form potential bases for granting a rehearing under subdivision (d) of section 5000.4063;
  - (4) Any portion of the amount at issue conceded by the party; and
  - (5) The signature of each party, or the signature of an authorized representative made on behalf of each party, who is filing the Petition for Rehearing.
- (d) Acceptance Accepting or Rejection Rejecting of the Petition for Rehearing.

- (1) Upon receipt of a Petition for Rehearing, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall must determine whether the Petition for Rehearing is timely and whether it contains substantially all of the information required by subdivision (e) of this section. If any question arises as to the timelines or the sufficiency of the contents of a Petition for Rehearing, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall will refer the Petition to the Chief Counsel.
- (2) If the Chief of Board Proceedings or the Chief Counsel determines that the Petition for Rehearing is timely, the Chief of Board Proceedings must accept the Petition for Rehearing. The Chief of Board Proceedings then will notify all parties in writing of the acceptance. The notice will explain each party's rights and obligations under this article. The Chief of Board Proceedings will provide one copy of the Petition for Rehearing and any supporting documents to the Non-Filing Party.
- (3) If the Chief of Board Proceedings or the Chief Counsel determines that the Petition for Rehearing is not timely, the Chief of Board Proceedings must reject the Petition for Rehearing. The Chief of Board Proceedings then will notify all parties in writing of the rejection and the reasons therefor.
- (2) If the Petition for Rehearing is timely and contains substantially all of the information required by subdivision (e) of this section, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall accept the Petition for Rehearing and notify all parties in writing of the acceptance. The Chief of Board Proceedings also shall provide one copy of the Petition for Rehearing to each Non-Filing Party.
- (e) Perfecting the Petition for Rehearing.
  - (1) If tThe briefing and resolution of a Petition for Rehearing cannot begin until the Petition for Rehearing is perfected. A Petition for Rehearing is timely, but does not perfected if it contains substantially all of the information required by subdivision (c) of this section, the Chief of Board Proceeding shall provide written notification to the Filing Party that the Petition for Rehearing is incomplete, along with an explanation of what is missing. The Filing Party shall have 30 days from the date of the notification to perfect the Petition for Rehearing. A Petition for Rehearing is not perfected until it contains sufficient information to identify and contact each appellant or authorized representative, along with the signature of each appellant or authorized representative. Upon written request from the Filing Party that establishes reasonable cause, the Chief Counsel may extend the period for perfecting a Petition for Rehearing.
  - (2) If a timely Petition for Rehearing is not perfected, the Chief of Board

    Proceedings will notify the Filing Party in writing of the need to perfect the

    Petition for Rehearing. That notice will explain what information is necessary
    to perfect the Petition for Rehearing.

- (A) The Filing Party must perfect the Petition for Rehearing not later than 30 days from the date of the notice. The Chief of Board Proceedings may extend the deadline for perfecting a Petition for Rehearing upon a showing of extreme hardship or upon written agreement by the parties. All parties will be notified in writing of any extension.
- (B) Perfecting the Petition for Rehearing is accomplished by submitting the information necessary to perfect the Petition for Rehearing to the Chief of Board Proceedings.
- (C) If the Filing Party fails to perfect the Petition for Rehearing within the 30-day period, or within any extension period granted by the Chief of Board Proceedings, the Petition for Rehearing will be rejected. All parties will be notified in writing of the rejection.
- (A) If the Filing Party perfects the Petition for Rehearing within the 30 day period, or within any extension, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall accept the Petition for Rehearing and provide written notification to all parties of the acceptance. The Chief of Board Proceedings also shall provide one copy of the perfected Petition for Rehearing to each Non-Filing Party.
- (B) If the Filing Party fails to perfect the Petition for Rehearing within the 30-day period, or within any extension, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall reject the Petition for Rehearing and provide written notification to all parties of the rejection and the reasons therefor.
- (1) If the Petition for Rehearing is not timely, the Chief of Board Proceedings shall reject the Petition for Rehearing and provide written notification to all parties of the rejection and the reasons therefor.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5082.1.

# 5000.4062. <u>Briefing on Petition for Rehearing.</u>

- (a) Subdivisions (b)(43), (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g) of section 5000.4030 shall apply to the administration of this section and to any documents filed pursuant thereto under this section. When applied to this section, provisions of section 5000.4030 shall must be interpreted within the context of this section.
- (b) Briefing Schedule.
  - (1) Unless otherwise directed by Board Staff, the Filing Party will not be permitted to submit any additional briefing after the submission of a perfected Petition for Rehearing.

- (2) Not later than 30 days from the date on which the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of a perfected Petition for Rehearing, the Non-Filing Party may file a Reply to the Petition for Rehearing.
- (3) If there is more than one Filing Party, then each party may file a Reply to each Petition for Rehearing under the requirements of paragraph (2).
- (c) Supplemental Briefing. This section does not preclude prevent a request for supplemental briefing pursuant to the provisions of under section 5000.4035.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5082.1.

#### 5000.4063. <u>Decisions on Petitions for Rehearing.</u>

- (a) Definition. A "Decision on Petition for Rehearing" is a written decision setting forththat contains the findings of fact and conclusions of law that form the basis of the Board's decision to grant or deny a rehearing. The Decision on Petition from Rehearing does not represent or reflect the Board's decision to grant or deny the rehearing unless and until it is adopted by the Board
- (b) Preparing the Decision on Petition for Rehearing. Upon the conclusion of briefing pursuant tounder section 5000.4062, the Appeals Division shall-will prepare a Decision on Petition for Rehearing. and, uUpon completion, the Appeals Division will submit the Decision on Petition for Rehearing to the Chief of Board Proceedings.
- (c) Adoption; Date of Decision. The Decision on Petition for Rehearing shall-will be submitted to the Board for adoption as a non-appearance matter and shall-remains confidential until adopted by the Board.
  - (1) If the Board grants a Petition for Rehearing, then the Board's decision under article 5 of this chapter shall will be held in abeyance pending resolution of the rehearing. The Board, in its discretion, may limit the scope of the rehearing.
  - (2) If the Board denies a Petition for Rehearing, then the Board's decision to deny the petition shall-becomes final 30 days from the date on which the Board voted to deny the rehearing.
- (d) Reasons for Granting a Petition for Rehearing. A Petition for Rehearing shall may be granted only for one or more of the following reasons:
  - (1) The Petition for Rehearing demonstrates the existence of irregularity in the proceedings before the Board by which the Filing Party was prevented from having a fair consideration of its case;

- (2) The Petition for Rehearing demonstrates the existence of accident or surprise, against which ordinary prudence could not have guarded, and by which the Filing Party was prevented from having a fair consideration of its case;
- (3) The Petition for Rehearing presents newly discovered evidence that is material to the resolution of the appeal. Evidence shall be considered "newly discovered" only if the Filing Party, using reasonable diligence, could not have discovered, prepared, or submitted the evidence prior to the Board's decision;
- (4) The Petition for Rehearing demonstrates a reasonable likelihood that there was insufficient evidence to justify a factual finding in the Board's decision; or
- (5) The Petition for Rehearing demonstrates a reasonable likelihood that the Board's decision contains an error in law.
- (e) Citation. No-Decisions on Petition for Rehearing shallmay not be cited as precedent in any appeal or other proceeding before the Board, unless the Board adopts the Decision on Petition for Rehearing as a Formal Opinion.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Code of Civil Procedure section 657; Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5082.1.

# 5000.4064. Briefing on Rehearing.

- (a) Subdivisions (b)(43), (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g) of section 5000.4030 shall apply to the administration of this section and to any documents filed pursuant theretounder this section. When applied to this section, provisions of section 5000.4030 shall must be interpreted within the context of this section.
- (b) Briefing Schedule; Single Petition Granted. If the Board grants a single Petition for Rehearing pursuant to section 5000.4063, the following briefing schedule shall applyapplies:
  - (1) Filing Party's Opening Brief. The Filing Party may file an Opening Brief not later than 30 days from the date on which the Board voted to grant the Petition for Rehearing.
  - (2) Non-Filing Party's Reply Brief. The Non-Filing Party may file a Reply Brief not later than 30 days from the date on which the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the Filing Party's Opening Brief.

- (3) Filing Party's Reply Brief. The Filing Party may file a Reply Brief not later than 30 days from the date on which the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the Non-Filing Party's Reply Brief.
- (c) Briefing Schedule; Multiple Petitions Granted. If there is more than one Filing Party and the Board grants more than one Petition for Rehearing pursuant to section 5000.4063, the following briefing schedule shall applyapplies:
  - (1) Opening Briefs. Each party may file an Opening Brief not later than 30 days from the date on which the Board voted to grant the Petitions for Rehearing.
  - (2) Reply Briefs. Each party may file a Reply Brief not later than 30 days from the date on which the Chief of Board Proceedings acknowledges receipt of the last brief filed pursuant to paragraph (1).
- (d) Supplemental Briefing. This section does not preclude prevent a request for supplemental briefing pursuant to the provisions of under section 5000.4035.
- (e) Alternate Briefing Schedule on Rehearing. Notwithstanding subdivisions (b) and (c), the Board may order any briefing schedule that it deems appropriate.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5082.1.

#### 5000.4065. Decision upon Rehearing.

- (a) Hearing and Decision. At the conclusion of the applicable briefing schedule under section 5000.4064, the provisions of articles 4 and 5 of this chapter shall will apply, except that any reference to a "decision" or "opinion" shall be deemed a reference to a decision or opinion upon rehearing, and any reference to the briefing schedule shall be deemed a reference to the briefing schedule under section 5000.4063.
- (b) Finality of Decision. The Board's decision upon rehearing shall beis the Board's decision on the appeal and shall becomes final 30 days from the date of the decision.

Note: Authority: Government Code section 15606. Reference: Revenue and Taxation Code sections 18533, 19043.5, 19045, 19047, 19048, 19084, 19085, 19087, 19104, 19324, 19331, 19333, 19334, 19335, 19343, 19345, 19346, and 20645. History: California Code of Regulations, title 18, section 5082.1.